



City of Salem SALEM PUBLIC ART COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday, November 13th, 2024
3:30 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.

Hybrid Public Meeting

In-person: City Operations Building, 1457 23rd Street SE, Room 175

Via [Zoom](#)

Via [YouTube](#)

Si necesita ayuda para comprender esta información, por favor llame 503-588-6336.

Para asistencia en español, llame al 503-540-2489.

PARTICIPANTS

Board Members

Zach Hull, Chair; Susan Napack, Vice-Chair; Spencer Emerick; Eduardo Diaz-Salazar, Krista Lauer, Brian Hart, Chris D'Arcy

Guests

Keith Stahley, City Manager

Staff

Kathleen Swarm, City Staff Liaison
Jennifer Kellar (Parks and Recreation Division Manager)

AGENDA

- 1) Welcome and call to order.
- 2) Public Comment – Appearance of persons wishing to address the Commission on any matter other than those which appear on this agenda.
- 3) Approval of Consent Agenda – Agenda for November 13th, 2024, meeting; Minutes of October 9, 2024, meeting.
- 4) Discussion Items
 - a) Revenue – City Manager, Keith Stahley
 - b) Strategic Work Plan and Strategic Visioning Documents
 - c) Scarves for Salem Temporary Art Installation
 - d) Public Art Directory (Salem Maps Online)
 - e) Annual Report Progress
 - f) Accession of Library Art Collection
 - g) Bloomberg Asphalt Grant
 - h) Subcommittee Reports:

- i) Art Pedestal Acquisition – Commissioners Napack, D’Arcy, and Lauer
 - ii) Social Media – Commissioner Lauer
- i) Art Collection Maintenance:
 - i) Black Discs
 - ii) Chemeketa Parkade Graffiti
 - iii) Jefferson Steet Mural, Urban Wilderness. (1380 Madison St.)
 - iv) Heron Sculpture Sign at Mirror Pond

- 5) New Business
 - a) Salem-Keizer Together Sign Replacement Collaboration Motion
 - b) Monthly SPAC Meeting Time

- 6) Action Items
 - a) Commissioner Nominations and Elections

- 7) Commissioners Comments

- 8) Adjourn

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 11th, 2024, at 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM. In-person and Zoom Hybrid meeting.

This meeting is being conducted virtually, with remote attendance by the governing body. No in-person attendance is possible. Interested persons may view the meeting online on [YouTube](#). Please submit written comments on agenda items, or pre-register to provide Public Comment on items not on the agenda, by 5 p.m. or earlier one day prior to the day of the meeting at kswarm@cityofsalem.net.

Special accommodations are available, upon request, for persons with disabilities or those needing sign language interpretation, or languages other than English. To request accommodations or services, please call 503-540-2371 (711 for Relay) at least two business days in advance.

It is the City of Salem’s policy to assure that no person shall be discriminated against on the grounds of race, religion, color, sex, marital status, familial status, national origin, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, source of income and housing status, as provided by Salem Revised Code 97. The City of Salem also fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and related statutes and regulations, in all programs and activities.

1457 23rd Street SE • Salem, OR 97302 • Phone 503-588-6336 • Fax 503-588-6305

Mailing Address: PO BOX 14300, Salem, OR 97309-1457

Salem Public Arts Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 9th, 2024

3:30 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.

Hybrid Public Meeting

In-person: City Operations Building, 1457 23rd Street SE, Room 175

Via [Zoom](#)

Via [YouTube](#)

Commissioners Present: Susan Napack, (Vice-Chair / Acting as Chair); Brian Hart, Chris D’Arcy, Krista Lauer

Guest Present: Kenneth De’ore (GIS Technician – City of Salem)

Staff Present: Kathleen Swarm (City Staff Liaison), Jennifer Keller (Parks and Recreation Division Manager)

1. Call to Order

Vice-Chair Susan Napack called the meeting to order at approximately 3:30 p.m. Chair Zach Hull, and Commissioners Eduardo Diaz-Salazar and Spencer Emerick were absent. The meeting commenced with introductions from all attending board members, staff, and participants joining via Zoom.

2. Public Comment

Kathleen Swarm confirmed that no public comments were received before or during the meeting.

3. Approval of Consent Agenda

Approval of the Consent Agenda – Agenda for October 9th, 2024; Minutes of the September 11th, 2024, meeting.

Motion: Chair Napack moved to approve the agenda for October 9th, 2024, and the minutes of the September 11th, 2024, meeting pending the correction of the typo. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chris D’Arcy and approved unanimously.

4. Discussion Items

A. Update on GIS Directory App – Kenneth De’ore

Kenneth De’ore provided an update on the development of the City’s Public Art Directory app, which compiles public art data into a GIS-based system. The app features an interactive map to explore art locations and will be available on a public-facing kiosk at the Salem Public Library. The app now supports multiple images and attached documentation for each art piece, improving public access and record accuracy. While there are some data gaps, volunteers and staff can help update the information. The possibility of a standalone mobile app was discussed, but for now, the directory will remain accessible through the city website.

❖ Reasonable accommodation and accessibility services will be provided upon request ❖

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B. Accession of Library Art Collection

Kathleen Swarm provided an update on the legal process of transferring the Salem Public Library Art Collection from the Library Foundation to the City of Salem. Mark Weinstein, the City Attorney, is currently drafting a legal document to formalize the transfer. The board noted that the process should be straightforward, as the collection is already housed in the library and there are no significant ownership complexities.

C. Review Draft Strategic Positioning Document

An update on the Strategic Positioning Document was provided. Susan Napack mentioned that Keith had shared progress on merging the overview and work plan. A revised draft will be distributed to commission members before the next meeting, to finalize it by November.

D. Willamette University Yarn Bomb

The Willamette University Yarn Bomb Project, titled "Scarves for Salem," was discussed. Kathleen Swarm recapped a meeting with David Altman, a professor at Willamette University, who proposed the project. The installation will feature knitted scarves hung in Riverfront Park near the Eco Globe, intended for anyone in need. The project will be temporary, lasting three days to a week, and aims to support vulnerable populations while fostering a stronger connection between the university and the community. Signage will explain the project's goals. The tentative installation date is November 15, weather permitting.

E. Subcommittee Reports

a. Downtown & West Salem Art Pedestal Project

Kathleen Swarm and Jennifer Kellar discussed the Art Pedestal Project request for proposal (RFP), which includes installing art on three pedestals with a \$50,000 budget for downtown and \$30,000 for West Salem. The RFP is being drafted, with the artwork to be installed by June 2025. Options include commissioning new works or purchasing existing pieces. Susan Napack highlighted the importance of public input and business involvement. A subcommittee will finalize the RFP and manage submissions from artists.

b. Social Media Plan Report – Commissioner Krista Lauer

Krista Lauer provided an update on SPAC's social media activity, noting that this month's theme highlights artists in the public collection who are also educators. The latest post featured James Kirk and his artwork "Yellow Flowers." Krista plans to align future posts with ongoing projects, including the Willamette University Yarn Bomb. There was also discussion about launching a Meet SPAC series, where board members introduce themselves and their favorite public art pieces.

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5. New Business

- a) Bloomberg Asphalt Grant
The Bloomberg Asphalt Grants provide funding for public art or urban beautification projects. The 2023 submission was unsuccessful, and the commission discussed the difficulty of meeting the scope of the project within the timeline and budget constraints.
- b) Commissioner Terms and Elections
The terms of service for some commissioners are nearing completion, and upcoming elections for new roles were briefly mentioned. This will be covered in more detail at the next meeting.
- c) Annual Report Creation
An annual report summarizing the commission's accomplishments will be drafted soon, with input from the board members. Susan Napack volunteered to assist Kathleen in drafting the Report.
- d) Oregon's Public Meeting Law Training
Board members were reminded to stay compliant with Oregon's Public Meeting Law and to complete the required training.

6. Action Items

- Correct the typographical error in the September 11, 2024, meeting minutes.
- Complete and execute the legal document to transfer the Salem Public Library Art Collection from the Library Foundation to the City of Salem.
- Distribute a revised draft of the Strategic Positioning Document for commission review before the November meeting.
- Confirm final details for the "Scarves for Salem" installation at Riverfront Park, including signage and any necessary approvals.
- Complete the drafting of the Art Pedestal Project RFP, considering public and business input, and publish for artist submissions.
- Continue aligning SPAC's social media posts with current projects and launch a "Meet SPAC" series, introducing board members and featuring public art highlights.
- Outline upcoming commissioner terms and election processes, identifying members nearing term completion and upcoming roles.
- Begin drafting the annual report summarizing SPAC's accomplishments, seeking input from all board members.
- Ensure compliance by completing required Oregon Public Meeting Law training.

7. Commissioner Comments

Commissioners shared final thoughts on ongoing projects and the future direction of the SPAC. There was consensus on the importance of public engagement and the need for strategic partnerships to bring art projects to fruition.

8. Adjournments

- ❖ Reasonable accommodation and accessibility services will be provided upon request ❖
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The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 13, 2024, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

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DONATION LOCATIONS:

City of Salem Operations Building, Mon-Fri: 8a-5p
Center for 50+, Mon-Thu: 8a-4p, Fri: 8a-4p, Sat: 9a-1p
City of Salem Customer Service Center, Mon-Fri: 7:30a-5p

DONATION DEADLINE:

November 12, 2024

With support from the Salem Public Art Commission, the Knitting Culture College Colloquium class is leading an effort to collect **winter items** (such as scarves, hats, and gloves) for neighbors in need.

Items will be placed around the fence surrounding the Eco-Earth Globe in Salem's Riverfront Park as a temporary

"TAKE AS YOU NEED"

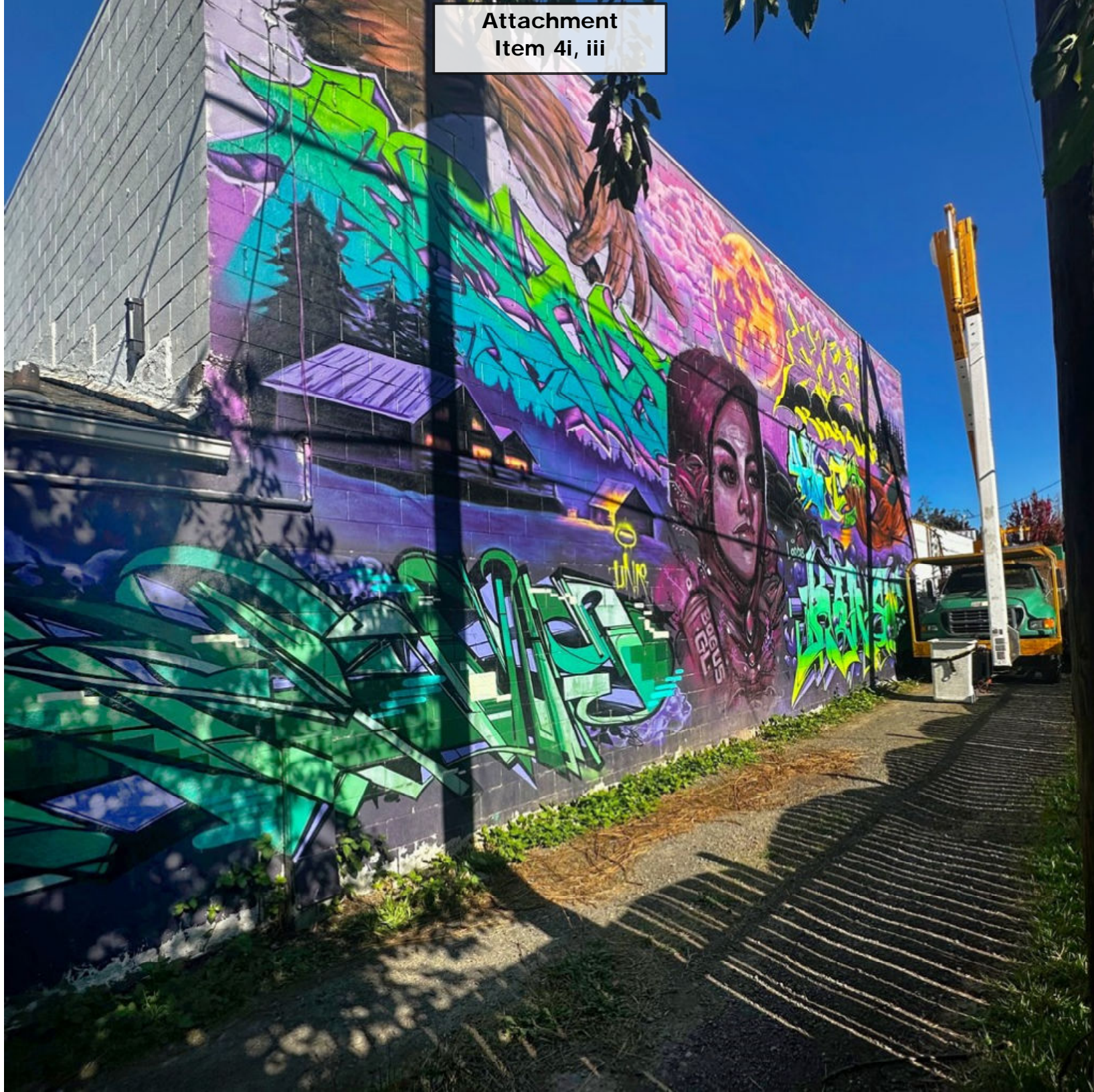
art installation.

At the end of the installation, all remaining items will be donated to the ARCHES project, a housing and street outreach program that helps people navigate toward stable housing.

Handmade items are encouraged but not required.

Please contact kswarm@cityofsalem.net with questions

Attachment
Item 4i, iii



Attachment
Item 4i, iv



This was the original motion

TO: Mayor and City Council
THROUGH: Keith Stahley, City Manager
FROM: Brian D. Martin, PE, Public Works Director

SUBJECT:
title

Request to Remove Circular Brick Structure from Salem-Keizer Together
Entranceway

Ward(s): Ward 5
Councilor(s): Jose Gonzalez
Neighborhood(s): Highland Neighborhood Association
Result Area(s): Safe, Reliable and Efficient Infrastructure; Welcoming and Livable
Community.
end

SUMMARY:
summary

The Salem-Keizer Together welcome entranceway is located on a triangle-shaped traffic island at the intersection of River Road N, Stark Street N, and Broadway Street NE. The circular brick structure displaying welcome signs was constructed in the early 1990's through a combination of public and private funds, facilitated by the Gateway Sign Committee formed by Salem Mayor R. G. Andersen-Wyckoff. Since its construction the brick structure has been struck multiple times by motor vehicles, necessitating its reconstruction, which has become burdensome to the City.
end

ISSUE:

Shall City Council authorize removal of the existing circular brick structure and replacement with conventional entranceway welcome sign(s) that are easier to repair or replace when damaged.

RECOMMENDATION:
recommendation

Authorize removal of the existing brick structure and replace with conventional entranceway welcome sign(s) that are easier to repair or replace when damaged.

body

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

Since its construction, the entranceway has spent considerable time in a state of disrepair rather than as a welcoming feature for the community. Staff have modified the area on numerous occasions to minimize the crashes, while still trying to maintain aesthetic value. Some modifications have included the addition of reflectors, turf in lieu of asphalt, and delineator tubes.

Removal of the circular brick structure and replacement with conventional entranceway welcome signs will ensure lower replacement costs if the area is impacted by motor vehicles again in the future. Staff will also consider additional pavement markings such as lane arrows, as well as and additional signage.

The City of Keizer is supportive of a proposal to replace existing circular brick structure with an alternatively designed entranceway. Attachment 3 includes graphics on potential conventional signs to provide a visual example of the entranceway area. Actual sign graphics will be evaluated and discussed with the City of Keizer before a final sign is selected.

BACKGROUND:

The Salem-Keizer Together entranceway was constructed in the fall of 1993 on an existing triangle of land serving as a traffic island between River Road N, Stark Street N, and Broadway Street NE. Construction of the circular brick structure was completed in the spring of 1994 and the Salem-Keizer Together Gateway was dedicated in May of that year. The project was funded through \$5,000 grants from both the City of Salem and the City of Keizer with the remainder of the funding coming from public donations and volunteer time contributions. Contributors to the project included Northwest Natural Gas, Keizer Area Chamber of Commerce, Keizer Sand and Gravel, Salem Sand and Gravel, Art Byers, DeSantis Landscaping, French Prairie Shade Trees, Mayor R.G. Andersen-Wyckoff, and Leisinger Designs. Routine maintenance of the entranceway over the years was performed and/or funded through Northwest Natural Corporation and the Dick Withnell family. The City of Salem currently maintains the landscaping through its right-of-way landscape contractor.

Within a year of completion, the brick structure was impacted by a drunk driver in March 1995 causing extensive damage to the southern side of the brick face and sign. The brickwork was rebuilt, but in the summer of 1997 the landmark was struck again, this time from the north. This cycle of impacts and repairs continue into the present day. In 2016, during a project to repair the broken brick landmark, the concrete flares that led from the brick circle outward were removed and replaced with grass. The prevailing thought at the time was the installation of turf would help to differentiate the area from the roadway, potentially reducing the frequency of impacts.

In recent history, the brick structure has been struck multiple times, each of which resulted in large repair costs for the City of Salem. The following is the impact timeline over the last 3 years with cost of repair:

- October 2021 - \$18,530

- May of 2022 - \$22,250
- June of 2023 - Estimate of Repair \$30,860
- Spring of 2024 - Damaged again prior to completion of 2023 repair - Estimate of Repair \$39,510

If removal is not authorized, staff anticipates continued damage and repair cycles into the foreseeable future.

Brandon Klukis
Street Maintenance Operations Manager

Attachments:

1. 1990's Aerial Image of Salem-Keizer Gateway
2. 2024 Satellite Imagery of Salem-Keizer Gateway
3. Salem-Keizer Monument Sign Gateway Concept

Attachment 2
Item 5a

Amended Motion for 3.3f on 2024.10.28

Motion:

I move to authorize the removal of the existing brick structure and its replacement with entranceway welcome signs that are easier to repair or replace with design collaboration with the Salem Public Art Commission.

Ward(s): Ward 5

Councilor(s): Jose Gonzalez

Neighborhood(s): Highland Neighborhood Association Result Area(s): Safe, Reliable, and Efficient Infrastructure; Welcoming and Livable Community.

Discussion points:

- **Enhanced Durability and Maintenance:** The current brick structure can be costly and difficult to repair. Replacing it with a simpler design will reduce long-term maintenance costs and make repairs more efficient.
- **Design with Reflecting Salem’s Identity:** By involving the Salem Public Art Commission, we can ensure the new signs incorporate design elements that highlight Salem’s cultural heritage and identity, creating a welcoming experience for residents and visitors alike.
- **Develop Design Consistency Across City Signage:** The design created for this entrance sign could serve as a model for other “Welcome to Salem” signs, helping to establish a cohesive aesthetic throughout the city.
- **Community Engagement and Pride:** Working with the Salem Public Art Commission allows for public input on the design, potentially increasing community buy-in and making the new signs a source of local pride.
- **Long-Term Flexibility:** A well-planned, adaptable design allows the sign to be updated or refreshed as the city evolves, ensuring it remains relevant and cost-effective.